

REMARKS

The specification has been amended to add the U.S. Patent No. and issue date of the parent application. Claim 18 has been amended to correct a lack of antecedent basis. Claim 18 has been amended to add the optical transmittance of the surface. Support for this amendment can be found in Fig. 4 of the application as originally filed. Claim 25 has been canceled as being a substantial duplicate of Claim 19.

Double Patenting

The examiner has advised that Claim 25 is considered to be a substantial duplicate of Claim 19. In response, applicants have canceled Claim 25.

Rejection under 35 U.S.C. § 112

The examiner has rejected claims 18-25 under 35 U.S.C. §112, second paragraph. In response, applicants have amended claim 18 to provide proper antecedent basis for the term "unexposed region".

Rejection under 35 U.S.C. § 102/103

The examiner has rejected Claims 18-21, 23-32 and 34-41 under 35 USC 102(b) as anticipated by or in the alternative. under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as obvious over U.S. Patent No. 5,828,432 to Shashidar et al (Shashidar). The applicants have amended Claim 18 to recite an optical transmittance of greater than 80%, as supported by Fig. 4 of the application as originally filed. Applicants respectfully submit that this amendment overcomes the examiner's rejection. Shashidar discloses optical transmission of about 60% to about 80%, see Col. 8, examples 2 & 3, and Fig. 3. As provided on page 3, lines 7-12, having a high optical transparency is an important attribute for such surfaces.

Rejection under 35 U.S.C. §103

The examiner has rejected Claims 18-41 under 35 U.S.C. as being unpatentable over Shashidar in view of "Patterning Orgacon Film by Means of UV Lithography". The examiner states that with respect to claims 22 and 33, Shashidar does not disclose an embodiment wherein the conducting polymer comprises PEDOT:PPS. Applicants respectfully submit that the amendment to Claim 18 has overcome this rejection as discussed above and respectfully request reconsideration.

Information Disclosure Statement

The examiner has stated that only pages 1 and 3 of the reference "Patterning Orgacon™ Film by Means of UV Lithography" were received with the IDS as filed. In response, applicants have submitted a complete copy of this reference with this response.

In view of the above amendment, applicant believes the pending application is in condition for allowance.

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Respectfully submitted,

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